

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Missoula Field Office 3255 Fort Missoula Road Missoula, Montana 59804-7204 http://www.blm.gov/mt



SEP 2 9 2011

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Missoula Field Office has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed livestock grazing lease renewal in the Ram Mountain Allotment on public lands administered by the BLM in Granite County in the state of Montana.

The Proposed Action includes the renewal of the 10-year term grazing lease for this allotment, along with new and/or revised terms and conditions, season of use adjustment, and construction of riparian exclosures. These actions are proposed to reauthorize the continuation of livestock grazing on public lands and to improve rangeland health, fish and wildlife habitat, and riparian/stream habitat.

We invite your comments on the enclosed EA # DOI-MT-BLM-B010-2011-0015. Your comments will be most helpful if they are received by October 18, 2011.

The BLM will consider substantive comments that do one or more of the following:

- question, with reasonable basis, the accuracy of information in the EA;
- question, with reasonable basis, the adequacy of, methodology for, or assumptions used for the EA;
- present new information relevant to the analysis;
- present reasonable alternatives other than those analyzed in the EA.

Comments that are not considered substantive and will not be addressed include the following:

- comments in favor of or against the proposed action or alternatives without reasoning that meet the criteria listed above for substantive comments;
- comments that only agree or disagree with BLM policy or resource information without justification or supporting data;
- comments that don't pertain to the project area or the project;
- comments that take the form of vague, open-ended questions or opinions.

The document is available for electronic viewing on the internet at: http://www.blm.gov/mt/st/en/fo/missoula_field_office.html. Written comments should be sent to:

Missoula Field Office ATTN: Tim La Marr 3255 Fort Missoula Road Missoula, MT 59804

If you would like to discuss this proposal and EA, please contact Tim La Marr at the BLM Missoula Field Office, (406) 329-1030.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Torquemada

Field Manager

Enclosure:

1-Environmental Assessment #DOI-MT-BLM-B010-2011-0015